

Dear Madam or Sir:

I write to you regarding the issue of cellphone usage while in the air:

I am a Flight Attendant for United Airlines and do not think it is safe when passengers are talking on the phone as they leave the airplane. These passengers do not watch where they are going, and often push other passengers when exiting.

To change the rule to allow passengers to talk on the phone while in the air is going to be chaos. Right now, passengers do not pay attention to initial safety announcements. You have to practically jump up and down in front of passengers to get their attention when they have their personal noise reduction headsets on. If passengers are allowed to use personal cellphones while in the air, this will only complicate my job as a safety professional. To have dozens and dozens of passengers talking on the phone will also be a great nuisance and possibly add to friction between passengers. I do not want to become the phone police monitoring speech volume levels and telling passengers to keep their conversations down. Likewise, I do not need to have passengers gathering near toilets talking on their phones. As a Flight Attendant, I already have to manage lines at the toilets, and not to allow passengers to stand and congregate in groups.

Cellphones should not be allowed to be used while in the air. My job is difficult enough already.

Thank You,

Kevin J Hutchinson